

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 02-1-8**

Date Published: January 3, 2002
For Work Week Commencing: January 7, 2002
Business Meeting: January 8, 2002, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Steve Vick at (406) 444-6182. He may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. D2001.11.149 – Montana-Dakota Utilities – Therm Zone Change in Billings/Laurel area – Discussion, direction, action on application. 1/8/02
2. D98.10.246 – Columbia Heights Water Co. – Information, discussion, and direction on ongoing service inadequacy matters. 1/8/02
3. Granrud Water Company – Information, discussion, and direction on transfer of company to a recently created district. 1/8/02
4. D2000.5.70 – Qwest 271 – Workshop #2 –To consider and approve a draft Final Report on Qwest's compliance with two of the emerging service issues—line sharing and subloop unbundling. 1/8/02
5. D2001.7.98 – Clark Fork Telecommunications – Access Tariff - Discussion, direction, action on procedure. 1/8/02

6. D2001.7.101 & D2001.12.161 – Business Savings Plan – PSC complaints regarding slamming – Information, discussion, direction on complaints. 1/8/02
7. General Ethics Presentation and Discussion 1/8/02 1:30 p.m.

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 8:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. QWEST COMMUNICATIONS N2001.12.171 (Leroy)

On December 20, 2001, Qwest Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 01-40 ValueChoice Introduction. The proposed new package for residence customers contains the following features: Anonymous Call Rejection, Call Forwarding Variable, Call Waiting or Call Waiting ID, Caller ID - Name & Number, Long Distance Alert, and Three-Way Calling. Customers may, if they desire, also include Call Forwarding Busy Line (Overflow)/Don't Answer, Call Forwarding Busy Line /Don't Answer (Expanded) Message Waiting Indication - Audible, Message Waiting Indication - Visual or Message Waiting Indication - Audible/Visual at no additional charge. The package also includes an individual flat-rate residence line. The package will sell for \$27.95 per month including the features and the 1FR

2. AT&T Communications Docket No. N2001.12.165 (Scott)

On December 5, 2001, AT& T requested to withdraw its sent-paid coin service within the State of Montana, pursuant to ARM 38.5.2760. Sent-paid coin service is an intrastate long distance service in which the customer initiates the long distance telephone call from a coin operated pay phone, paying for the call in advance with cash, as opposed to

utilizing a credit or calling card, third party billing, or other payment. AT & T is requesting to withdraw this service because is used casually by customers and the demand for this service is dwindling rapidly.

3. Citizens Communication Docket No. N2001.12.164 (Scott)

On December 10, 2001, Citizens filed Advice Letter No. MT-01-11. The purpose of this filing is to include the existing Federal Lifeline Telephone Service credit in the Montana Telephone Assistance Program Tariff. This filling does not impact the billing credits that are currently being issued to qualified life line customers.

4. Central Montana Communications, Inc. Docket No. N2001.12.170 (Scott)

On December 19, 2001, Central Montana requested to modify its tariffs. The changes are Section 4 in accordance with the PSC agreement a credit was established in late 1999 that offset reduced property taxes. The credit began January 1, 2000 and will expire December 31, 2001. The second change is a result of the recent FCC order, Federal Subscriber Line Charges (SLCs) for subscribers of independent local companies and cooperatives will increase. For qualified low-income customers, the FCC directed that support for the federal Lifeline service program will match any increases in the SLCs. The Tier 1 discount for low-income subscribers has been increased accordingly.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at

<http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 02-1-14

New Filings Received in Past Week

D2001.12.176 Cut Bank Gas Company - Application for Authority to Decrease Rates